

House File 525

HOUSE FILE _____
BY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 225)

Passed House, Date _____ Passed Senate, Date _____
Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____ Vote: Ayes _____ Nays _____
Approved _____

A BILL FOR

1 An Act creating an environmental oversight committee.
2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:
3 TLSB 2916HV 80
4 tm/cl/14

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1 1 Section 1. NEW SECTION. 457.1 ENVIRONMENTAL OVERSIGHT
1 2 COMMITTEE.
1 3 1. There is created an environmental oversight committee.
1 4 The committee shall be composed of the following members:
1 5 a. Three senators appointed by the majority leader of the
1 6 senate.
1 7 b. Two senators appointed by the minority leader of the
1 8 senate.
1 9 c. Three representatives appointed by the speaker of the
1 10 house of representatives.
1 11 d. Two representatives appointed by the minority leader of
1 12 the house of representatives.
1 13 2. A committee member shall be appointed prior to the
1 14 adjournment of a regular session of the general assembly
1 15 convened in an odd-numbered year. The term of office shall be
1 16 for four years beginning May 1 of the year of appointment.
1 17 However, a member shall serve until a successor is appointed.
1 18 A vacancy on the committee shall be filled by the original
1 19 appointing authority for the remainder of the term. A vacancy
1 20 shall exist whenever a committee member ceases to be a member
1 21 of the house from which the member was appointed. When the
1 22 majority and minority parties in a house change, the house's
1 23 members serving on the committee shall cease to be members of
1 24 the committee and the appointing authorities for the new
1 25 majority and minority parties shall appoint successors.
1 26 3. The committee shall choose a chairperson from its
1 27 membership and prescribe its rules of procedure. The
1 28 committee may employ a secretary or may appoint the director
1 29 of the legislative service bureau or a designee to act as
1 30 secretary.
1 31 4. a. At least sixty days prior to finalizing a proposed
1 32 agreement with the federal environmental protection agency, a
1 33 state agency shall notify the committee regarding the proposed
1 34 agreement. Proposed agreements that include, at least in
1 35 part, the transfer of moneys to the state shall not be
2 1 included under the notification requirements of this
2 2 paragraph.
2 3 b. Notification required under this subsection shall be
2 4 made in writing to the secretary of the senate and the chief
2 5 clerk of the house of representatives. Notification shall
2 6 include the general nature of the agreement and the name of a
2 7 person employed with the agency who has knowledge regarding
2 8 the proposed agreement.
2 9 c. The committee shall meet for the purpose of selectively
2 10 reviewing proposed agreements with the federal environmental
2 11 protection agency. The committee may require a representative
2 12 of an agency whose proposed agreement is under consideration
2 13 to attend a committee meeting.
2 14 5. The committee may refer a proposed agreement to the
2 15 speaker of the house and the president of the senate at the
2 16 next regular session of the general assembly. The speaker and
2 17 the president shall refer such a proposed agreement to the
2 18 appropriate standing committee of the general assembly.
2 19 6. If the committee objects to a proposed agreement, the
2 20 committee may submit an objection statement to the agency. An
2 21 objection statement shall include general objections or
2 22 specific suggested changes to the proposed agreement. This

2 23 section shall not be construed to prevent a standing committee
2 24 of the general assembly from reviewing a proposed agreement on
2 25 its own motion.
2 26 7. Notwithstanding section 13.7, the committee may employ
2 27 necessary legal and technical staff.
2 28 HF 525
2 29 tm/es/25